Powers and Functions of Consumer Protection Councils

5239. SYED SIBTEY RAZI : Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether some Consumer Protection Councils at State level, District level and lower level have been set up in States and Union Territories;

(b) if so, give their locations, State-wise and Union Territory wise, with thier detailed functions, level-wise;

(e) whether these Councils have been empowered to finalise the grievancs of people within some time bound period;

(d) if so, details thereof and if not, reasons therefor;

(c) whether these Councils have been facing a lot of difficulties in discharging their functions; and

(f) if so, details thereof and steps to be taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED) : (a) As per information available with the Central Government, state level Consumer Protection Councils have been set up in all the States/Union Territories under the Consumer Protection Act, 1986. The responsibility for setting up of these Councils rests with the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations. The Act does not provide for setting up of such Councils at the District or lower level. The Act does not extend to the State of Jammu and Kashmir.

(b) The headquarters of these Councils are usually the Departments of Food & Civil Supplies all the State level the State/Union Territories. The main objective of these Councils is to render advice to promote and protact the rights of the consumers. [*See* Appendix 170, Annexure No. 104].

(c) and (d) No Sir. These Councils are advisory in nature and are not directly dealing with redressal of individual complaints.

(e) and (f) State Government have not intimated any such difficulties.

Model Fair Price Shops in the country

5240. SYED SIBTEY RAZI : Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Model Fair Price Shops have been opened in some States and Union Territories;

(b) if so, their locations, State and Union Territory-wise with names of items being sold through these shops;

(c) whether these shops have some working timings and day;

(d) if so, details thereof and if not reasons therefor ?

(e) whether these shops have been found more popular amongst the people;

(f) whether Government propose to set up some more similar shops in future in some States and Union Territories; and

(g) if so, details thereof and if not, reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS & PUBLIC DISTRI-